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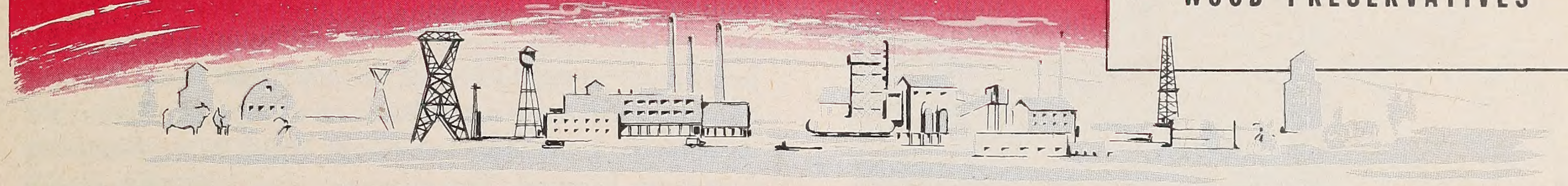
ALBERTA NEWSLETTER

- WILD ROSE EMBLEM
- ALBERTA-MADE HOIST
- FROZEN FISH INDUSTRY
- WOOD PRESERVATIVES



INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH
GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
HON. A. R. PATRICK, Minister; R. R. MOORE, Deputy Minister; R. MARTLAND, Director

VOL. 3, No. 2 EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA MARCH, 1959

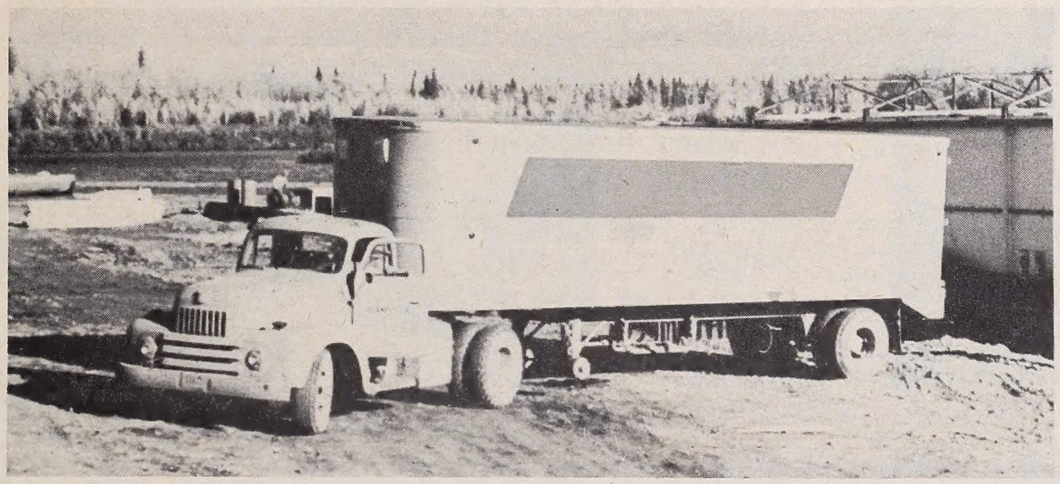
WILD ROSE EMBLEM IDENTIFIES ALBERTA GOODS

Adoption of a stylized version of the Wild Rose, Alberta's floral emblem, as the insignia to be used in the "Buy Alberta" program instituted by the Alberta government, was approved at the mid-March meeting of the campaign Steering Committee. Artwork involved in preparing the made-in-Alberta trademark is now under way.

It was anticipated that this insignia, with an accompanying motto indicating the product to which it was affixed was made in Alberta, would be attached by manufacturers of all Alberta-made products. Such identification to the consumer, it is hoped, will spur the recognition and sale of province-made products. Slogan use will be at the discretion of the manufacturer.

The Committee will consider the various forms and extent of advertising and publicity to be undertaken in conjunction with the campaign, at its next meeting. The program received enthusiastic endorsation, expressed on returned questionnaires issued by the Steering Committee seeking suggestions for the campaign.

The most recent issue of "Canadian Trade Fairs", published by the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce, is now available. Copies may be had by writing that department, at Ottawa.



$500,000 Trailer Plant Expansion

One of Canada's largest commercial trailer manufacturers, Fruehauf Trailer Company, has started on a $500,000 building program in Calgary that will include facilities for a trailer assembly operation.

Fruehauf Trailer will be located on 10.3 acres in the Donnybrook industrial district on the eastern outskirts of the Stampede City. The cement block and plastic panel structure will have an area of 33,000 square feet.

Also planned with the trailer assembly operation are a large central parts depot and expanded sales and service facilities. The new plant will serve a Western Canada market.

The Calgary project is part of a $6½ million expansion across Canada.

Economical Alberta-Made Hoist Is Popular

Scrap aluminum and a machinist's mechanical ingenuity are basic ingredients of a new manufacturing industry in Fort Macleod, Giant Hand Manufacturing Company Limited. The company was formed by local associates and production of an all-purpose winch and hoist began last November.

Manufacture of the light-weight hoist is allied to general operations of a repair garage and weldshop, providing off-season employment for four men. Production capacity is 25 to 30 units per day.

Framework, ratcheted drum and dogs are cast from aluminum in a small fireproof workshop adjoining the main workshop. Selected cast aluminum obtained from scrap dealers in the area is mixed proportionately with high quality sheet aluminum. A gas fired furnace operating at 1,300 degrees fahrenheit reduces metal to liquid for ladling into molds. The special steel molds were custom built by machine shops in Medicine Hat and Calgary.

From the company's own machine shop came cold-rolled steel pins, clevises, handles and trigger springs. Steel jigs for drilling and alignment of components also are a company product. Steel cable is purchased from a Lethbridge distributor.

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Heavy loads are readily handled by the small, efficient hoist.

Assembly process of the hoist is fast and accurate.

NEW WOOD PRESERVATIVE FIRM ALREADY PLANS PLANT GROWTH . . .

With the installation of new equipment, Peerless Wood Preservers Ltd. at Cayley, Alberta will very substantially increase their production during the coming year. Last year, in its initial operating period the plant more than justified expectations of its principals in volume of output and sales opportunities in Alberta.

The new Peerless plant uses pentachloraphenol preservative in the dry-cell treatment procedure. The Company handles power and telephone poles up to 50 feet in length, fence posts, lumber etc. in its treatment cylinder. This massive insulated pressure unit is slated for expansion next year.

Wood to be treated is subjected to immersion in the cylinder in commercial pole treating oil at a high temperature for a period sufficient to remove the greater portion of wood moisture. The wood, still in the retort, is then subjected to initial air pressure and again immersed in the treating oil under extreme pressure. The oil carries a five percent solution of pentachloraphenol and is forced deep into the structure of the wood. With the releasing of pressure, compressed air in the wood cells expands and forces out excess petroleum carrier, leaving the wood comparatively dry but impregnated with the pentachloraphenol. The treatment solution is then

(continued on page 5)

Above is the entry to the long processing cylinder at the plant.

Calfair Compound Kills Weeds, Helps Lawn Growth

Calmix bagging operation is quick, and bulk handling easy.

From a small start with local weed control service in 1954 a chemical weed control firm in Calgary, Calfair Limited, has expanded its operations to serve the major areas of Canada. Initially owner-operated, the company employs an average of five workers throughout the year and may have a staff of up to 12 during busy summer seasons.

Calfair Limited purchases all its basic herbicides and combines them for selective purposes. Conventional chemicals such as 2-4D, dalapon and telvar, or monuron, are impregnated in a light weight aggregate. This pellitizing process, pioneered by Calfair in 1955, has numerous advantages. "Calmix" preparations in solid suspension do away with problems of poisonous dust, and inflammability. They also reduce bulk in handling and storage, and simplify application. Pelleted chemicals may be spread by hand or a spreader may be used for larger areas.

Annual purchase of materials totals over 100 tons, of bulk materials, thousands of locally produced polythene bags and paper cartons, and highly concentrated chemicals from various sources in Canada. Company payroll is in excess of $20,000 a year.

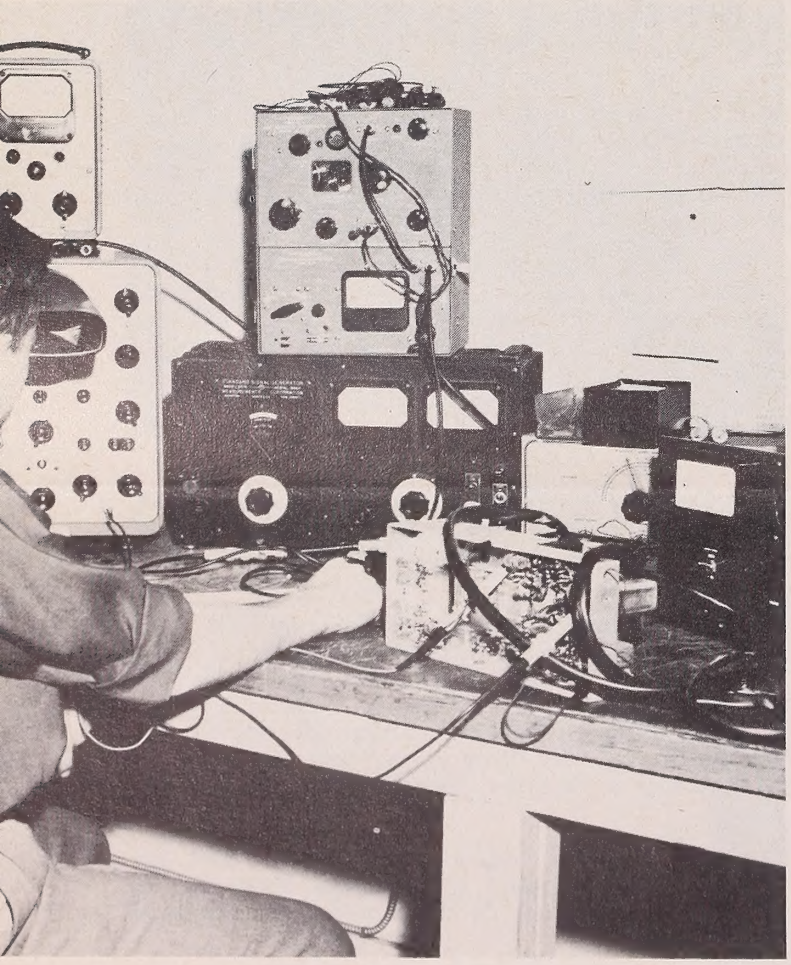
Calmix products are designed for three principal uses, household, agricultural and industrial. The household line kills broadleafed weeds in lawns and adds grass fertilizer. Most important among the agricultural lines is a quack-grass killer which does not harm broadleafed plants such as legumes, potatoes and peas. A pelleted overall weed killer is particularly popular for wiping out small isolated patches of toad flax, leafy spurge and other noxious types. Infestations of this type are said to be more costly to treat with pressure spraying equipment.

Utility companies, railways, highways officials and the oil and gas industry are the biggest buyers of weed control preparations. Properties in a wide variety of soil and climatic conditions may be rid of growth for extended periods.

Ready-to-apply Calmix preparations will give effective treatment for up to 200 square feet per pound. The same base chemicals mixed with conventional carriers may require as much as eight or ten pounds per 200 square feet.

Calfair products are distributed through recognized hardware jobbers and directly by the company on some specific orders. A service department is mainted for consultative purposes and for application contracts. The plant is located at 123 - 5 Ave. S.E., Calgary.

Service microphones built into ground station medium frequency transmitter aids maintenance checking of remotely operated sets.



Split units are thoroughly tested in quality control section before being installed in composite set.

Electronics Firm's Radio Controls Extensively Used Throughout West

A wide and growing range of tele-communications equipment is manufactured by a Calgary firm, Electronic Research & Development Company Limited, to serve the rapidly expanding communication and industrial electronic markets in Canada and abroad. Established in 1948, the company is one of four such manufacturers in Canada and the only one west of Ontario. It is owned and operated by local businessmen.

The firm has an engineering and manufacturing staff averaging 50 people. Annual payroll, excluding the sales staff, totals approximately $150,000 and gross value of production is in excess of one million dollars a year.

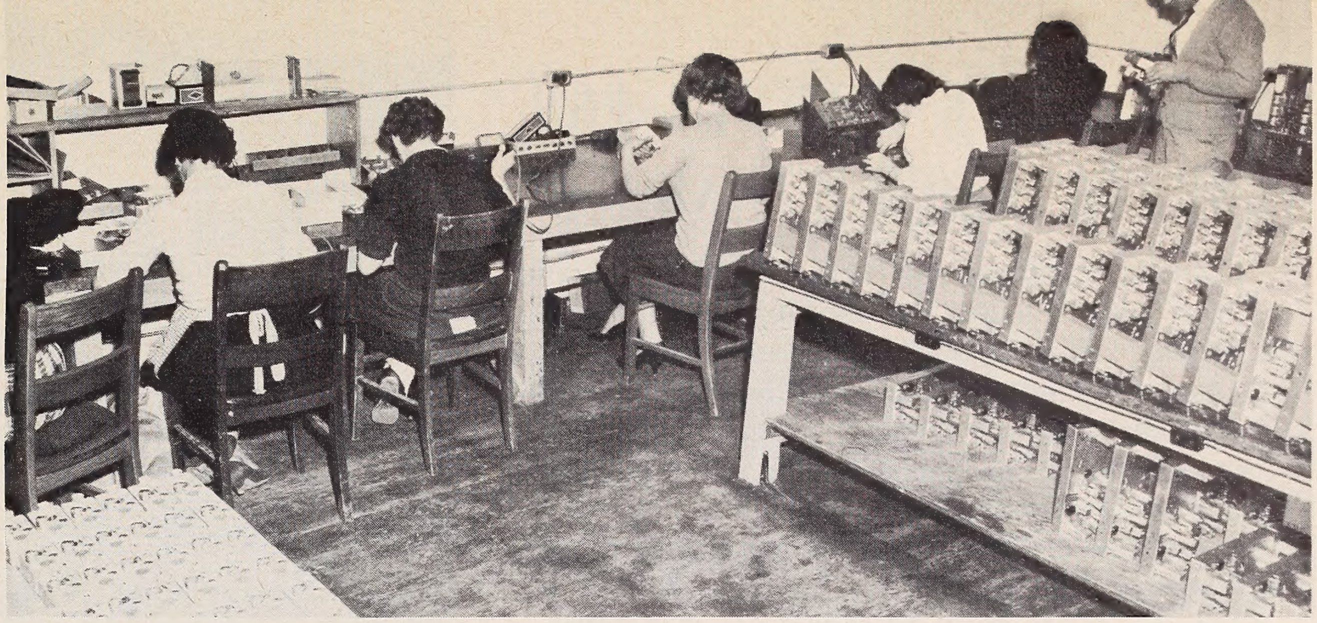
Mobile and fixed station transmitting-receiving sets and small telephone switchboards are among the main items produced. An engineering department designs basic unit equipment both for general use and according to special customer needs. The company provides complete systems as well as producing items for general sale. Its principal customers are telephone, power, transportation, and construction companies. Production this year is projected on manufacturing 1,000 mobile communication sets.

The products of the company are used in a variety of ways. An order recently completed for Alberta Government Telephones called for construction of several 500-watt transmitters for medium frequency radio-telephone circuits to operate entirely unattended. The company designed and installed a supervisory system to monitor remotely located high pressure pumping equipment used in an oil field recovery programme. Various fleets of vehicles are using mobile radio equipment produced and maintained by "ERD" (as the company is known).

Complexity of the manufacturing process requires a great skill and rigorous testing. A complete receiving-transmitting unit may have up to 1,500 soldered connections. One poor contact or a fault in some small component will render the set defective.

Metal chassis, cabinets and stands are produced wholly in the company plant. Electro-plating to inhibit corrosion also is done in the plant. Components such as cable, insulated wiring, condensers, tubes, resistors, oscillators and transformers are purchased in quantity. Up to 1958 practically all components were imported from the United States but now over 70 percent are obtained from Canadian sources. Plastic protective bags and cardboard shipping cartons are bought from producing firms in Calgary.

Calgary as a locale for electronics manufacture has an important attribute which obviates problems. The atmosphere is comparatively dry throughout the year and virtually no condensation is noted in the manufacturing process. Firms in other parts of the country resort to costly intra-red heating to eliminate condensation, a bug-bear in the performance of electronic equipment.



Intricate procedures in assembly are performed by the deft fingers of skilled female operators.

The company has a separate division which installs sound and intercommunication equipment for the building industry throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan. "ERD" is the Canadian licensee and distributor for the Du Mont Laboratories, one of the leading U.S.A. electronics manufacturers. As a Du Mont licensee, the company has the opportunity to sell Du Mont-designed and "ERD"-manufactured products in British Commonwealth countries where Canada has a tariff advantage over the U.S.A. As a Du Mont distributor, "ERD" has entered the closed-circuit and industrial television field and offers complete system engineering and installation in this field.

The company maintains sales and distribution offices in Edmonton, Alberta, and Regina, Saskatchewan and has independent distributors serving the other regions of Canada. A private plane is used by the company for travel to its branch offices and for service calls to the oil fields.

ALBERTA MADE HOIST

(continued from page 2)

With a weight of only 13½ pounds, the Giant Hand has a lifting or pulling capacity of one ton. When used in conjunction with a pulley fulcrum its capacity is boosted to eight tons. Among the many uses for which the tool is adapted are fence stretching, load binding, workshop hoist, winch for moving stuck vehicles, and for the hunter as hoist for dressing big game.

The working apparatus is such that one stroke of the handle will rotate the drum the distance of either one or two cogs. Direction of pull is reversible through a flip of the finger on trigger spring.

Inventors of the Giant Hand claim it is the only tool of its kind made in Canada, and compares in many respects with some imported models. However, it is lighter in weight and embodies several improvements.

The company plans to arrange national distribution of its product. It is also interested in foreign export, having received inquiries from New Zealand and Ireland.

WOOD PRESERVATIVE PLANT

(continued from page 3)

withdrawn from the retort and the wood subjected to a vacuum process which removes surplus and residual oils, and then to a steam bath which ensures a clean attractive product. The chemical left in the wood by this effective pressure treatment protects it for years to come against the destructive action of rot-producing soil organisms, termites, etc. by its toxic action upon them.

All wood is peeled before treating begins, and fence posts for driving purposes are also sharpened. The peeler at the Cayley plant is an efficient machine operated by a five-man crew. The pointing machine, constructed like a big pencil sharpener can point up to 15 posts a minute. Lodgepole pine, used by the Peerless plant, is the wood most frequently treated in Alberta.

The Company is considering the possible by-products which may be manufactured from the large piles of bark resulting from the peeling process.

Gary Keller, president of Peerless Wood Preservers Ltd. estimates that at least 20 men will be employed in the plant itself this year, with an additional 40 men engaged in cutting and stockpiling raw material.

Pressure treated posts and poles give service for 30 to 40 years—a vast increase over the useful period of untreated wood—and for that reason are considered both a labor and money saving investment by those who use them.

LARGE HOME MARKET FOR ALBERTA FROZEN FISH

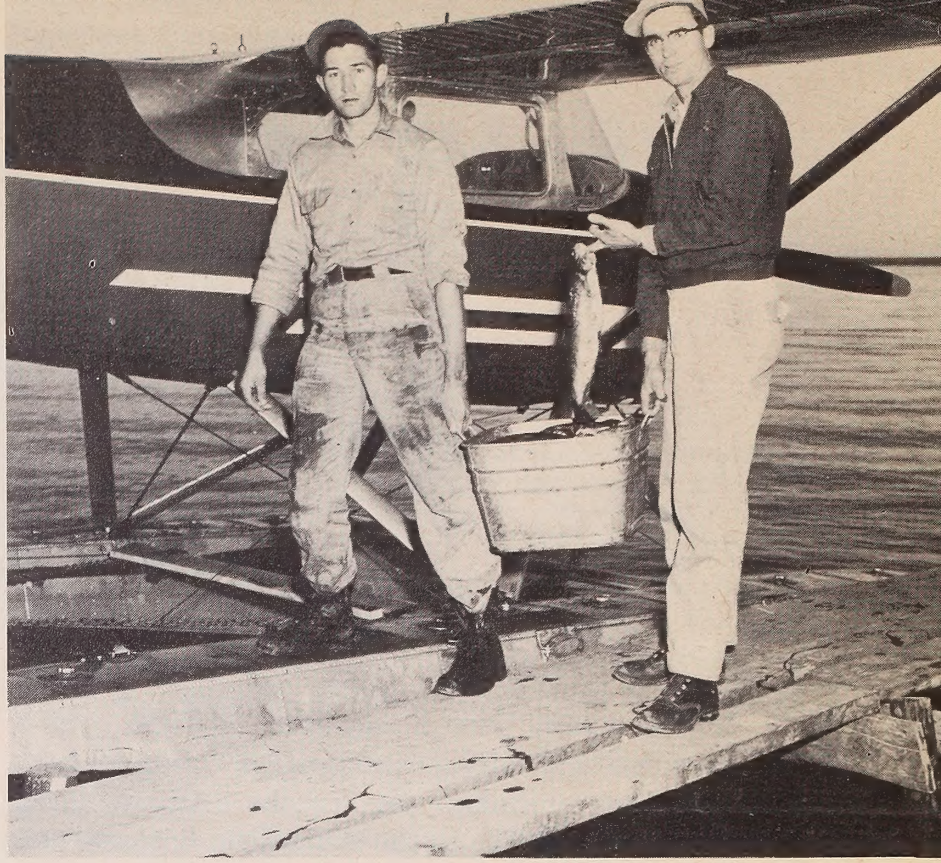
Growing popularity of Alberta whitefish in North American markets led to the establishment of a new fish filleting plant in northern Alberta. The Arctic Fish Company Limited began activities in June, 1956. The $60,000 enterprise, located at Canyon Creek on the south shore of Lesser Slave Lake, was the first in the province to operate on a year-'round basis. It is owned and operated by two Albertans, George Jones and Emanuel Racine.

Whitefish make up about 90 per cent of the company's handling. Pike, pickerel and lake trout form most of the remainder. The latter are shipped out "whole dressed", with head and entrails removed. Cargoes are packed in ice and trucked to Edmonton. From there they are distributed to expanding markets in Alberta, Canada and the eastern United States.

Late last year the company placed their own packaged product on the market. Whitefish ordinarily placed in export trade were scaled, dressed and cellophane wrapped for distribution on the Alberta market. The entire 1958-59 production of some 150,000 pounds of choice whitefish will find a ready sale on Alberta tables.

The company uses a single-engined Cessna plane in its ferrying operations. Native fishermen are hired to net-fish lakes within a radius of 115 miles of the home base. In one of the heaviest weeks of operations, 21 loads of fish were flown to the plant from outlying lakes. They averaged about 700 pounds per load. A large power boat is used for fishing on Lesser Slave Lake during commercial fishing seasons. Some purchases also are made from independent fishermen on Lesser Slave Lake.

Speed is an essential ingredient in the proper handling of fish and the processing plant of the Arctic Fish Co. is fully equipped to permit fast handling.



Aircraft are used by the northern firm for the fast shipment of fish.

A trading post is maintained by the company at Trout Lake, some 70 air miles northeast of Canyon Creek. The backhaul of groceries makes long distance fish hauling more economical. With other diversifications, this enables spreading operations over a large area and on a 12 month schedule.

Fish are dressed at the point of catch and whitefish are filleted immediately upon reaching the plant. The processing staff normally consists of six to seven men and women, local residents. Sorted and graded fish are ice-packed in wooden boxes assembled on the spot and are placed in refrigerated storage. The 66 foot by 48 foot plant has storage space for three-quarters of a million pounds, the first cold storage facilities to be used by a fish exporting plant in Alberta.

The problem of a continuous supply of ice was solved through installation of a newly developed flake-ice machine. It was one of the first to come into use in western Canada. The electrically powered unit freezes water then chips the ice into flakes in one continuous operation. Production is about 1,500 pounds of ice in 24 hours. Costs are considered to be lower than the conventional block-ice supply, involving costly summer storage and appreciable melting loss, plus much labor in all stages of handling.

One of the greatest advantages of the location at Canyon Creek is the ready sale for what would otherwise be plant waste. Local mink ranchers require thousands of pounds of fish every day for animal feed. Imported supplies generally run a few cents per pound higher than local offerings. Ranchers use about 25 per cent cuttings and trimmings from the plant and make up the balance with low grade whole fish. In 1958 the company stored almost a quarter of a million pounds of Lesser Slave Lake herring for summer mink feed, replacing for the first time heavy imports from the west coast.

TOWN OF ST. ALBERT

Location: Census division number 11; 8 miles north of Edmonton on Highway No. 2, and on the CNR.

Altitude: 2,056 feet.

Temperature: Mean summer, 59.3 degrees; mean winter, 19.8 degrees; yearly average, 34.6 degrees.

Rainfall: Average annual rainfall, 10.74 inches; average annual snowfall, 45.6 inches; average annual precipitation, 15.30 inches.

Geology: Bedrock is light colored shales and sandstones underlying the glacial deposits of the upper Cretaceous period.

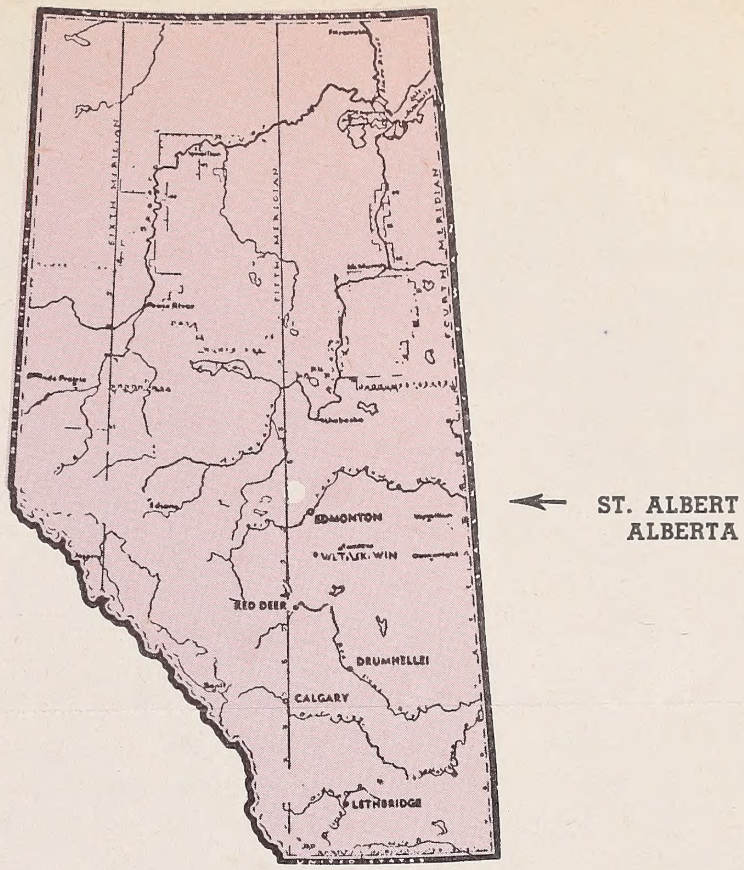
Soils: St. Albert is in the black soil zone, a large percentage of which is arable. The soil is among the most fertile in the province and has in its surface foot about three to four times as much nitrogen and organic matter as there is in the average brown or gray wooded soil. Wheat of good quality is grown and mixed farming is popular.

History: St. Albert was named in honor of a pioneer Roman Catholic missionary, Father Lacombe, in 1861. The first white settlers arrived in the district in 1878 and the town was surveyed in 1884. The town boasts of having the first bridge built west of the Great Lakes, and also the first Cathedral. A school and orphanage was opened by the Sisters from Lac St. Anne in 1863. Seven years later the mission established by Father Lacombe was raised to an Episcopal See, with Bishop Grandin as its first Titular Bishop. The Bishop later moved his residence to Edmonton. The original mission is now used as a museum.

Living Conditions: St. Albert is picturesque in its location in a valley. The main street is paved and although the majority of buildings are old, they are well preserved and maintained. Education facilities are provided for grades 1-12. Metropolitan Edmonton is only eight miles distant.

Administration: St. Albert was created a New Town in 1957 and is governed by a Board of Administrators comprising four elected members and three provincial government appointees. One member is named chairman. A secretary-treasurer carries out the policies set by the administrators.

Law Enforcement: The town is policed by an RCMP detachment of three constables.



Building Regulations: Plans for all new buildings, alterations or removals must be submitted to the council for approval. The electrical code conforms to the Alberta Electrical Protection Act, and Provincial health regulations govern sanitary bylaws.

Fire Protection: A volunteer fire brigade has at its disposal adequate equipment to ensure efficient fire protection.

Tax Structure: Mill rate in 1958 was 52 mills made up of 11 municipal, 35 school, and six hospital. Assessment was $1,910,242 based on land and improvements, $1,791,322; business, $98,220, and power, $20,700.

Area: Total area of town, 3,000 acres; streets and roads, 111,000 square yards; parks and playgrounds, 21 acres. There are 8.3 miles of concrete sidewalks and 6.5 miles of streets and roads.

Sewer and Water Mains: Storm sewers, 1,000 feet; sanitary sewers, 17,195 feet; water mains, 17,195 feet.

Power: Three phase 60 cycle power is supplied to the town by Calgary Power Ltd. Domestic minimum rate is $2.70 per month for the first 20 kwh. All over 20 kwh cost 1.5 cents per kwh. There is a 30 cents prompt payment discount. Special commercial, and power service rates are available.

Water: Water is obtained from the city of Edmonton and is piped into the town. All services are metered. Rates for 0 to 835 cubic feet, $4 minimum; 835 to 1800 cubic feet, 48 cents per 100 cubic feet. Special rates are available for heavy users.

Natural Gas: Natural gas is supplied under a franchise by Northwestern Utilities Ltd. General rate: first 3 mcf or less used per month, $2.50; all additional mcf used per month, 38 cents per mcf per month. An optional rate for consumers using more than 741 mcf annually provides a fixed charge of $10 per month plus a charge of 24 cents per mcf per month. Special high load factor rates are also available.

Fuel: L.P. gas is available at $6.50 per 100 pound cylinder, and 18 cents per gallon in bulk, delivered from Edmonton. Diesel fuel with a heat value of 135,000 to 140,000 b.t.u. per gallon costs 16.8 cents per gallon delivered, summer grade, and 17.8 cents per gallon winter grade. Coal is available from local mines.

Natural Resources: Straw, cereal grains, dairy products, poultry and eggs; honey, sand, gravel, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, oil and gas, clay, coal.

Government Offices:
Federal: Post Office, RCMP detachment.
Provincial: Telephone office.
Municipal: Town hall housing secretary-treasurer, public library, committee room, local school board.

Health Services: There is no hospital in the town but an agreement with the City of Edmonton has arranged for use of city hospitals. An old folks' home is operated by the Sisters of Charity. There is one private practising physician, one dentist and one drug store.

Professional and Personal Services: Two barber shops, one lawyer, one accountant, one beauty parlor.

Transportation: Canadian National Railway, three bus lines, daily trucking service.

Communications: C.N. Telegraphs, A.G.T., post office. Nearest radio stations at Edmonton — CJCA, CFRN, CHED, CKUA, CHFA, CBX. Nearest television station, CFRN-TV, Edmonton.

Financial Facilities: Bank of Montreal.

Hotels: Bruin Inn.

Churches: Roman Catholic, United.

Service Clubs: Board of Trade, Lions.

Societies: Women's Auxiliary, Community League, Catholic Youth, Home and School, skating association, curling association, U.F.A.

Theatres and Halls: Community Hall, Club Macombo.

Schools: The town has its own school board for both public and Protestant Separate schools. Sturgeon School division maintains a 10-room school for rural students. There are a total of four school buildings with 23 teachers and 572 students. Grades 1 to 12 are taught along with the following optional subjects: typing, office practice, stenography, French, arts and crafts, music, drama, home economics and shop.

Cultural Activities: St. Albert Public Library is supported by the town, membership fees and provincial government grant. It is open every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Two drama groups are active. A brass band is sponsored by the Lions club.

Youth Activities: Boys: Boy Scouts, Wolf Cubs, Air Cadets, Army Cadets, 4-H club, calf club. Girls: Girl Guides, Brownies, Fauvettes, 4-H club, calf club.

Sports: Baseball, hockey, softball, badminton, tennis, curling, skating. There is a covered two-sheet curling rink, open air skating and hockey rink, playgrounds at school grounds, and a park. There is good bird hunting in the district.

Fairs: A community fair is sponsored by the Women's Institute.

Historic Sites: The original Roman Catholic mission is now used as a museum. Tombs of Father Lacombe and other missionaries are located in the church grounds.

Co-operatives: Alberta Wheat Pool, U.F.A.

Population: Town population, May, 1958 — 1,947 (estimated). Town population, 1956 census, 1,320; trading area population, 2,545.

Industrial Development: Desirable industrial sites are available from private owners at reasonable prices. The area is dependent upon agriculture for its economic sustenance.

For further information about St. Albert
write

TOWN SECRETARY,
TOWN OF ST. ALBERT,
St. Albert, Alberta

or

Director of Industrial Development
Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta